



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 5380

LCO No. 1627



Referred to Committee on PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS

Introduced by:
(PRI)

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING A REPORT ON FINANCIAL AID AWARDS AND TRACKING TRANSFER CREDITS BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10a-57 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3 (a) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall
4 report on or before March 1, 2013, and annually thereafter, in
5 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
6 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
7 relating to higher education and appropriations and the budgets of
8 state agencies on state, regional and national trends regarding
9 Connecticut higher education, including, but not limited to,
10 expenditures, funding, enrollment, faculty and staff positions, cost
11 sharing and student financial aid. The Office of Higher Education shall
12 collect such data and information as directed in this section and as it

13 deems necessary for the development of such annual report.

14 (b) On or before January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, The
15 University of Connecticut shall develop and provide to the Office of
16 Higher Education for inclusion in the higher education trends report
17 made in accordance with subsection (a) of this section a report
18 indicating the manner in which financial aid was awarded in the prior
19 academic year to its in-state students and, separately, to its out-of-state
20 students, including, but not limited to, the following:

21 (1) The number and percentage of all undergraduate students and,
22 separately, first-time, full-time freshmen, who received need-based
23 institutional aid;

24 (2) The number and percentage of all undergraduate students and,
25 separately, first-time, full-time freshmen, who received merit-based
26 institutional aid, listed separately for each type of merit-based
27 institutional aid, the percentage of such students and freshmen who
28 had no financial need, as determined by expected family contribution
29 for educational costs as computed from a student's Free Application
30 for Federal Student Aid, and the percentage of such students and
31 freshmen whose aid exceeded financial need, excluding those students
32 with no financial need;

33 (3) A list of the typical financial aid packages awarded, which shall
34 be grouped by quintiles of expected family contribution for
35 educational costs as computed from the student's Free Application for
36 Federal Student Aid, categorized by aid type; and

37 (4) The amount of financial aid received by all undergraduate
38 students and, separately, first-time, full-time freshmen, categorized by
39 aid type, including each aid type's share of total dollars awarded.

40 For purposes of this subsection, (A) "quintile" means the division of
41 a range of data into five equal parts, each such part being twenty per
42 cent of the range; and (B) "merit-based institutional aid" includes any

43 financial aid awarded primarily or solely based on a student's
 44 academic or other talent and conferred by the university's financial aid
 45 office, academic and athletic departments or foundation.

46 (c) On or before January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, The
 47 University of Connecticut shall develop and provide to the Office of
 48 Higher Education for inclusion in the higher education trends report
 49 made in accordance with subsection (a) of this section a report
 50 regarding the university's analysis of course transferability for
 51 students enrolling at the university after first completing coursework
 52 at another institution of higher education. Such report shall include: (1)
 53 The number of transfer students who applied, were accepted and
 54 enrolled at the university; (2) the number of transfer courses and
 55 credits applied for by enrolling students; (3) the number and
 56 percentage of courses and credits accepted by the university for credit
 57 toward its general education requirements; and (4) the number and
 58 percentage of courses and credits within a student's major that are
 59 accepted as applicable toward the corresponding major requirements
 60 of the university. The university shall separate the data in the report
 61 according to each public institution of higher education in this state
 62 from which the transfer student is transferring and, in the aggregate, to
 63 students transferring from independent institutions of higher
 64 education and out-of-state public institutions of higher education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2014	10a-57
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Statement of Purpose:

To implement the recommendations of the legislative program review and investigations committee concerning reports on financial aid awards and tracking transfer credits.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

